

Message Text

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FEBRUARY 23. FOR IOP/M. TODAY'S LA PRENSA GRAFICA BANNERED "KISSINGER WILL MAKE ANALYSIS OF CENTRAL AMERICA." JUMP PAGE STORY, EVIDENTLY WRITTEN BY LOCAL REPORTER, SPECULATED THAT "...BEGINNING FEBRUARY 24, THE CENTRAL AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS THE PRESIDENT OF COSTA RICA, AND SECRETARY KISSINGER, WILL MAKE A MULTI-NATIONAL STUDY OF THE SALVADORAN-HONDURAN SITUATION." THE PAPER EXPRESSED HOPES THAT SOMETHING POSITIVE WILL EMERGE FROM THIS MEETING IN FAVOR OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND ADDED THAT THERE IS " CONSIDERABLE EXPECTATION IN INTERNATIONAL CIRCLES ABOUT THIS EVENT WHICH WILL FOCUS ON THE OVERALL CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION, THERE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS, AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES."

LA PRENSA GRAFICA CARRIED UPI ACCOUNT OF MR. KISSINGER'S BRAZILIAN VISIT WHICH HIGHLIGHTED THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND BRAZIL ON REGIONAL AND BILATERAL MATTERS. IT ALSO PUBLISHED AP ITEM ON U.S. RECOGNITION OF BRAZIL AS WORLD POWER, BUT CAUTIONED SERIOUS DIFFERENC DLSTILL EXIST BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES.

DIARIO DE HOY, THE OTHER HIGH CIRCULATION MORNING PAPER, CARRIED LOCAL ITEM "THREE MATTERS WHICH THE (CENTRAL AMERICAN) FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL DISCUSS WITH KISSINGER." THE PAPER TICKED OF THESE ITEMS AS: U.S. TRADE ACT; PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS,AND U.S. AID TO GUATEMALA. THIS PAPER ALSO FEATURED ACAN/EFE ITEM UNCLASSIFIED

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ADVISING THAT SAN JOSE MEETING WILL FOCUS ON PANAMA CANAL TREATY

AND SEARCH FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA; ALSO, AP ITEM REPORTING THAT VENEZUELA REGARDED ACTION TAKEN BY THE U.S. IN GIVING BRAZIL STATUS OF WORLD POWER AS "CLOSING DOWN THE DISLOG WITH THE REST OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH DEMOCRATIC LEANINGS."

WEEKEND PAPERS GAVE ROUTINE TREATMENT KISSINGER TOUR, BASED ON COMMERCIAL WIRE SERVICES. NO FRONT PAGE COVERAGE NOR EDITORIALS. EL MUNDO (MODERATE, PRO-GOVERNMENT) CARRIED INSIDE LOCAL STORY HEADED "BORGONOVO WILL DISCUSS (SALVADORAN) EXPORT QUOTA WITH KISSINGER." IT ALSO REPORTED BORGONOVO'S STATEMENT AHT HE WILL DISCUSS AMENDAMENTS TO THE OAS CHARTER.
GRIFFITHS

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